Unit 4: Hebrews/Judaism

Lesson 1

**TORAH** Contains the history of the Hebrews as well as laws and stories about them.

There are four Hebrew leaders

1. **Abraham** – Called the “Father of the Hebrew.”

2. **Moses** – Led Hebrews to promised land

3. **King David**– United the Hebrews into a kingdom with Jerusalem as the capital city. Brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem to establish a holy government.

4. **King Solomon** – David’s son who built a grand temple to house the Ark.

Abraham

**Abram -** Name that Abraham was born with until God changed it.

**Ur**- City where he was born.

**Monotheistic** - Abram believed in one god but the rest of Mesopotamia was polytheistic.

**Canaan** Place where God told Abram and his household to go live in 1950 BCE. (Abram was 75 years old)

**Covenant**- Sacred agreement between God and Abram.

**99 years old -** was how old Abram was when God made the covenant with him.

**100 years old -** was how old Abram was when his son was born.

**Isaac**  was the name of Abraham’s son.

**Sacrifice** - the gift of an animal killed to please gods/god.

What would be hard for you to sacrifice?

**12**  Tribes eventually composed the nation of Israel

Reuben Dan

Simeon Naphtali

Judah Gad

Issachar Asher

Zebulun Benjamin

Manasseh Ephraim

Lesson 2 – Moses

During the time of Abraham’s grandson, Jacob, there was a **famine**.

Jacob moved his entire family to **Egypt,** because they had vast grain supplies.

There were almost as many Hebrews as Egyptians in Egypt, so the Egyptians **enslaved** the Hebrews. This means forced into slavery.

Pharaoh’s daughter **adopts** Moses when she finds him floating in a basket.

According to tradition, Moses had a **speech impediment** meaning he had difficulty in speaking clearly.

In order to force the pharaoh to release the Hebrew slaves they suffered **10 plagues.**

The death of pharaoh’s **son**, caused him to release the Hebrews.

The Hebrews escaped the Egyptian army by walking through the **Red Sea.**

The **Exodus** is what the story of the Hebrew’s departure from Egypt is called.

After leaving Egypt God gave the Hebrews the **10 commandments** or written laws on two tables of stone.

**Mount Sinai** means “mountain of God.”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Judaic Law** | **Babylonian Law** |
| You shalt have no other God | They had so many |
| You shall not worship any image | They always worships images |
| You shall not curse using God’s name |  |
| Remember the Sabbath Day (7th day) and keep it holy |  |
| Honor your mother and father | If a son strikes his father, his hands shall be hewn off. |
| You shall not kill | If a builder build a house for some one, and does not construct it properly, and the house which he built fall in and kill its owner, then that builder shall be put to death.  If it kill the son of the owner the son of that builder shall be put to death.  If it kill a slave of the owner, then he shall pay slave for slave to the owner of the house.  If a man strike a free-born woman so that she lose her unborn child, he shall pay ten shekels for her loss.  If the woman die, his daughter shall be put to death.  If the wife of one man on account of another man has their mates (her husband and the other man's wife) murdered, both of them shall be impaled. |

David – Lesson 3

About 1000 BCE a group called the **Philistines**  agreed to let the Hebrews enslave them IF someone could beat their best warrior one-on-one.

**Goliath** was the name of their best warrior. His size ranges from 6 feet 9 inches to 9 feet 9 inches depending on the story source.

Goliath **taunted** the Hebrews every morning and night

According to the Torah, a **shepherd** boy named David volunteered.

David used a **Slingshot** to bring down Goliath.

David’s achievements were

1. He **united** the Hebrews into the **kingdom of Israel**
2. **Central Government**
3. He brought the  **Ark of the Covenant** to **Jerusalem** his capital city.

David drew up plans to build a **temple.**

David **accumulated** most of the building materials.

These materials included 100,000 talents of **gold** and 1,000,000 talents of **silver**.

100,000 talents of gold = 3750 tons, value today = $45 billion

100,000 talents of silver = 3750 tons, value today = $10.8 billion.

From his own private fortune David also gave **3,000** talents of gold and **7,000** talents of high grade silver.

How much in today’s money did David give?

**Almost 2 billion dollars of todays money**

He died before construction could start.

Solomon

Solomon is best known for building the very first **temple**.

**Taxes** were used to raise the money and they were high.

The Torah's description of Solomon's Temple suggests that the inside ceiling was **180** feet long, **90** feet wide, and **50** feet high.

The highest point on the Temple that King Solomon built was actually **120** cubits tall or about **20** stories/ **207** feet high.

Many believe Solomon strayed from his beliefs because he had **300** wives and so many were foreign.

By the time he died, the northern tribes split and formed their own kingdom called **Israel**.

The southern tribes remained and called themselves the Kingdom of **Judah**.